

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner set forth a restriction requirement and required election of one of the following groups under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

Group I: Claims 1-11, drawn to a semiconductor device, classified in class 257, subclass 79.

Group II: Claims 12-19, drawn to a method of manufacturing a semiconductor device, classified in class 438, subclass 22.

In this Reply, Applicants elect Group II (Claims 12-19) and have cancelled Group I claims 1-11, without prejudice. The election is made with traverse.

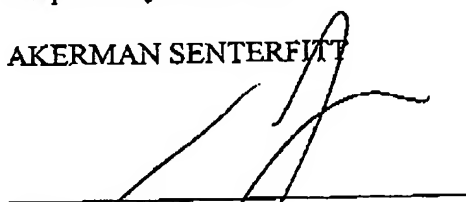
Based on the above election, Applicants request removal of the restriction requirement and substantive examination of claims 12-19. Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if it is believed that the above restriction election is incomplete or improper in any way, or if a telephonic interview will expedite the prosecution of the application to an allowance.

No fees are believed due with the filing of the above Response. However, the Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in any fees due with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-0951.

Respectfully submitted,

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